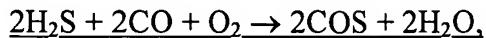


AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

1. (Currently Amended) A COS treatment apparatus for a gasified gas containing H₂S, H₂O, O₂, and CO, which comprises:

an O₂ removal catalyst for accelerating the following reaction:



said O₂ removal catalyst being a TiO₂ catalyst carrying Cr₂O₃ or NiO; and

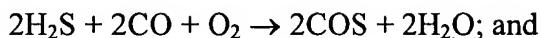
a COS conversion catalyst located on the a downstream side of a gasified gas flow with respect to said O₂ removal catalyst.

2-3. (Cancelled)

4. (Original) The COS treatment apparatus according to claim 1, wherein said O₂ removal catalyst is located in a higher-temperature region with respect to said COS conversion catalyst.

5. (Currently Amended) A COS treatment method for a gasified gas containing H₂S, H₂O, O₂, and CO, which comprises the method comprising:

a first step of removing O₂ from the gas by reaction with H₂S and CO, using a TiO₂ catalyst carrying Cr₂O₃ or NiO to accelerate the following reaction:



a second step of converting COS to H₂S.

6-7. (Cancelled)

8. (Currently Amended) The COS treatment method according to claim 5, wherein said first step said removing O₂ from the gas is performed at a higher temperature with respect to said second step converting COS to H₂S.